



June 8, 2004

## **Providence man is charged with gun offense**

A federal grand jury has charged **Dara Veng**, of Providence, with being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The Office of the United States Attorney, Providence Police Chief Dean Esserman, and Monty J. Monteiro, Resident Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), jointly announced a one-count indictment, which was returned on June 2 in U.S. District Court.

ATF agents and Providence Police arrested Veng on June 3. Veng, 22, of 2 Queen Street, was arraigned that day before Magistrate Judge Robert W. Lovegreen, pleaded not guilty, and was ordered detained pending trial.

The indictment charges Veng with being a felon in possession of a Bryco Arms M-9, 9 millimeter semi-automatic pistol, serial number 1444470, on November 8, 2003.

An indictment is merely an allegation and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty. The statutory maximum penalty for being a felon in possession of a firearm is ten years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine. Federal sentencing is determined on the basis of guidelines that rely on such factors as the specific nature of an offense and a defendant's criminal background, if any.

**Providence Police and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives** investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen G. Dambruch is prosecuting it.

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